

Message Text

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10
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-05 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

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TO USIA WASHDC
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USIAC

FOR IBS AND IPS

E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJECT: VOA LAO SERVICE FEATURES ON US NUCLEAR POLICIES

1. UPCOMING 22ND WORLD CONFERENCE AGAINST ATOMIC AND HYDROGEN BOMBS TO BE HELD IN HIROSHIMA HAS BEEN USED AS OCCASION BY LAO GOVERNMENT AND PROPAGANDA ORGANS TO ACCUSE US OF VARIETY OF NUCLEAR CRIMES. ON JULY 20 PRESIDENT OF LPDR SOUPHANOUVONG SENT GREETINGS TO THE CONFERENCE IN WHICH HE CREDITED PREVIOUS CONFERENCES WITH FORCING US TO "ABANDON THEIR INTENTIONS OF USING NUCLEAR BOMBS AGAINST THE THREE INDOCHINESE PEOPLES" AFTER OTHER FORMS OF BOMBING WERE FOUND TO BE INEFFECTIVE. SOUPHANOUVONG GOES ON TO ACCUSE US OF HAVING VIOLATED JAPANESE SOVEREIGNTY BY SENDING NUCLEAR SUBMARINES TO JAPANESE PORTS WITHOUT SECURING PERMISSION OF JAPANESE AND OF CONTINUING TO USE OKINAWA AIR BASES SIX YEARS AFTER OKINAWA HAD BEEN RETURNED TO FULL JAPANESE CONTROL. IN ADDITION, SOUPHANOUVONG CLAIMS US HAS GIVEN NUCLEAR WEAPONS TO SOUTH KOREA AND ISRAEL.

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2. FOLLOWING SAME LINE, LAO DELEGATE TO CONFERENCE OF BUDDHISTS CONCLUDED RECENTLY IN JAPAN CRITICIZED US FOR DROPPING ATOMIC BOMBS ON NAGASAKI AND HIROSHIMA. EDITORIAL IN AUGUST 10 ISSUE OF "SIENG PASASON" REPEATS ALL OF ABOVE CHARGES, AS DID AN EDITORIAL OF THE LAO NATIONAL RADIO OF THE SAME DATE.

3. POST FEELS IT USEFUL FOR VOA TO CARRY ONE OR TWO FEATURE STORIES ON US POLICY OF CONTROLLING MILITARY USES OF ATOMIC WEAPONS AND INSURING THAT ATOMIC ENERGY SHARED FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES IS NOT ILLICITLY TURNED INTO MILITARY USES. FEATURES MIGHT ALSO BRIEFLY TOUCH ON MILITARY NECESSITY OF HIROSHIMA AND NAGASAKI BOMBINGS AND IF POSSIBLE NOTE SOVIET SUPPORT OF THESE ACTIONS AT THE TIME.

4. POST ALSO REQUESTS FROM IPS ARTICLES OR ARTICLE ON ABOVE THEMES SUITABLE FOR SENDING TO NEWSPAPER AND RADIO STATION. POST HAS CARRIED RECENT PIECES IN WIRELESS FILE IN ITS DAILY BULLETIN. ALTHOUGH WE ENTERTAIN NO ILLUSIONS THAT MEDIA WILL USE MATERIAL IT MIGHT BE WELL TO REMIND THEM THAT WE ARE AWARE OF THEIR COMMENTS AND ARE WILLING TO PRESENT OUR POINT OF VIEW TO THEM.

5. MATERIAL WILL BE PRESENTED IN NON-TENDENTIOUS WAY WITH IMPLICIT ASSUMPTION THAT PERHAPS LAO MEDIA MIGHT HAVE THOUGHT DIFFERENTLY IF THEY HAD HAND ALL THE FACTS. SUTTER

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